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Letter dated 19 January 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I wish to inform you that, at 2012 hours on Tuesday, 16 January 2018, Royal Saudi Air Defence forces became aware that the Houthi militias loyal to Iran had launched a ballistic missile from Yemeni territory towards the city of Jazan in Saudi Arabia. Defence forces intercepted and destroyed the missile, which had been deliberately aimed at densely-populated civilian areas.

This act of aggression on the part of the armed Houthi group, which is backed by Iran, shows that the Iranian regime continues to support the group with sophisticated capabilities in clear and open defiance of Security Council resolutions 2216 (2015) and 2231 (2015) with a view to undermining the security of Saudi Arabia, the region and the world. Launching ballistic missiles at densely-populated cities and towns is also a violation of international humanitarian law.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia once again calls on the international community to take effective and more earnest steps to bring an end to the bare-faced violations committed by Iran, which continues to smuggle ballistic missiles and weapons to terrorist outlaw groups. The international community must hold Iran accountable for supporting the violation of norms, flagrantly defying international values and undermining regional and international security.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Abdallah Y. **Al-Mouallimi**
Permanent Representative

18-01068 (E) 250118 250118

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